



Appl. No. 09/368,429

Group III, claims 8 and 11, drawn to methods of stainproofing the carpet.

For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, claims 1-5, 10, 12 and 13.

The traversal is on the basis that it would not be an undue burden on the Examiner to Examine the three "inventions" together. In particular, the applicants request that upon finding allowable subject matter that the method of use claims be rejoined with the compound claims as is consistent with the procedure as set out in In Re Ochiai, 37 USPQ2d 1127 (Fed. Cir., 1995).

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Andrew D. Meikle (Reg. No. 32,868) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

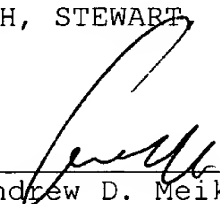
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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By  _____
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